

Grafton Underwood Parish Council

Temporary Clerk – Penny Sneddon 01536 330623

Minutes of the quarterly meeting held in the Village Hall on the 9th August 2022

5 Villagers attended and our prospective clerk, Pat Bird

- 1 Apologies were received from Dean Baker and Alistair Wildgoose
- 22 We introduced Pat Bird, our prospective new clerk. She is already clerk in Cranford. Pat was thanked for coming and taking on the role and hope she will enjoy working with us.
- 2 Minutes of the last meeting, an extraordinary meeting, held on the 10th June, were approved and signed by the Chairman and Penny Sneddon as a true account
- 3 No matters arising
- 4 Still to check Ruby's name is off the Zurich insurance documents
- 5 Discussion regarding new prunus trees along the edge of the brook. Sam Reece, Boughton's Agent, gave permission to take down the older trees and plant new ones in their place. He thought there may be trouble in the future if they were planted along the brook side by the long wall, with the roots, in time, getting under the wall. It was also noted that now Gigaclear has shallow internet lines along the edge of the path, in the grass, there would have to be care not to damage them.
- 6 How is the 126 VAT going – this is moved to the next meeting when the new clerk will have looked into this
- 7 Rob Corney thought the councillors should meet, without bothering the clerk, to look at funding
- 8 Report from Penny Sneddon regarding the Community Payback. It has been very hot for them but the benches have now been cleaned and brushed with wood preservative (Sadaline), the brook has been part strimmed along the banks and the church path strimmed. They are not back here in August but will give us some more time in September and are willing to make it an on-going project. We have had to pay for consumables, but the labour is free
- 9 Brook maintenance – Mark Bird reported that he is to spray some of the weed growth and has put plugs in the saplings growing in the banks, with more to do.
- 10 Rob Davies reported on the meeting with Scottish Power regarding the Solar Farm. The sub-station is to go onto the Brigstock side. There has to be a committee (Alex Medri noted that this may have to include a paid, qualified representative) to oversee any payments Grafton receives and they should not be connected to any village organization, and this committee should have a separate account for the funding to go into. Funding to go towards green issues. Sam Reece said there was a new planning application in the pipeline and to keep an eye open for it Jan/Feb 2023.
- 11 Drainage repairs. Rob Davies reported that Highways had been out and signed off the repair outside Sandy's (no 24) that we have all been reporting. They have renewed the wrong manhole! He will report it again.
- 12 Sam Reece from Boughton Estate and Rob Corney had had a meeting. Willows along the brook should be taken down Sept/October this year
- 13 Rob Corney met with our prospective new clerk, Pat Bird. She is willing to take on the role from September if it meets with her time schedule and our requirements. They agreed on 10hrs per month at the same rate as Cranford is paying
- 14 The Barclays mandate is not yet finalized to get Rob Corney as a signatory
- 15 Nothing back from AGAR
- 16 Payments approved as on the agenda, for payment in September. Bank stands at the 29th July £10,199.28
- 17 To cancel membership to Parish Online when it become due in September 2022
- 18 It was agreed to pay for a Wreath from the Parish Council, as usual, for Remembrance Sunday in November
- 19 Asset Mapping – to leave until next meeting
- 20 Richard Daykin reported on his on-going check on the village trees. The stump in the field (Pork Piece) worried him, but Sam Reece said it was being monitored by the Estate
- 21 Rob Corney to email Warkton's Chairman with regard to reclaiming part of our payment for the computer bought last year for the previous clerk who worked for Warkton, Weekley and Grafton.
- 23 The warning light at the cross roads is still not working. Pat will follow this up with Ian Boyes as Cranford has also been concerned
- 24 Meeting closed at 8.30pm
- 25 NEXT MEETING 15th November 2022 at 7pm